

## Claims

1. A method for transmitting data bursts (BURST1, BURST2) between a sending network node (A) and a receiving network node (E) over switching devices (S1, S4, S5) of a data network, characterized in that said sending network node (A) receives information about the blocking time ( $\delta_{REQ-MIN}$ ) until possible sending of its next data burst (BURST2), and in that it will send the next data burst (BURST2) on expiration of said blocking time ( $\delta_{REQ-MIN}$ ).
2. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the remaining blocking time ( $\delta_{REQ-MIN}$ ) of a connection (A - E) is sent to the sending network node (A).
3. The method as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2, characterized in that both the instant of the beginning of an available connection (A - E) or the blocking time ( $\delta_{REQ-MIN}$ ) until the beginning of the available connection (A - E) and the terminating instant ( $t_{REQ-MAX}$ ) of the available connection or the duration (GAP) of the available connection (A - E) or a length of time ( $\delta_{REQ-MAX}$ ) until the end of the available connection (A - E) are transmitted to the sending network node (A).
4. The method as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the blocking time ( $\delta_{REQ-MIN}$ ) and the remaining connection time (GAP)/length of time ( $\delta_{REQ-MAX}$ ) for a connection (A - E) are transmitted to the sending network node (A).

5. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2,  
characterized in that  
the sending network node (A) sends a reservation request (REQ)  
via the switching device (S1, S4, S5) to the receiving network  
5 node (E).

6. The method as claimed in claim 5,  
characterized in that  
the desired length of time ( $\delta_{REQ} = 0$ ) until the next data burst  
10 (BURST2) is sent in the reservation request (REQ).

7. The method as claimed in claim 5,  
characterized in that  
each switching device (S1, S4, S5) determines the longest  
15 remaining blocking time ( $\delta_{REQ}$ ) and forwards it to the next  
switching device (S4, S5) or, as the case may be, to the  
receiving network node (E).

8. The method as claimed in claim 5,  
20 characterized in that  
in an acknowledgement signal (ACK) the receiving end node (E)  
sends the time specifications ( $\delta_{REQ-MIN}$ ,  $t_{REQ-MAX}$ ,  $\delta_{REQ-MAX}$ ) for an  
available connection (A - E) to the sending network node (A)  
via the switching devices (S5, S4, S1) and the switching  
25 devices (S5, S4, S1) undertake the necessary reserving of  
transmission capacity on the basis of said time specifications.

9. The method according to one of the preceding claims,  
characterized in that  
30 the data bursts (BURST1, BURST2) are transmitted over an  
optical data network.